Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 3rd December, 2002 and 16th December, 2002 respectively, received the assent of the President on 6th January, 2003 and 'The Freedom of Information Act, 2002' has been published in the Gazette of India on 7th January, 2003.

Amendment of Central Civil Services Conduct Rules

†1117. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to amend Central Civil Services Conduct Rules and All India Services Conduct Rules;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action so far in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the action taken; and

(d) what improvements Government intend to bring in the administration through these amendments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (d) No Sir. However, it is stated that revision/amendment and updating of the rules and orders/instructions relating to conditions of service including the Conduct Rules of the Central Government employees are done on an ongoing basis, whenever Government finds the need for the same. Several amendments to the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules have been made since its promulgation in 1964. The Government had constituted a Study Group regarding rewriting of the All India Service (Conduct) Rules, 1968. The Study Group has since submitted a report.

Employment on compassionate grounds

1118. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a Government policy to provide for employment to the surviving spouse/other member in the family, when an employee dies in harness;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether any quota/reservation has been set apart for such employment on compassionate grounds;

(c) whether over the years such reservation/quota has not been given effect to; and

(d) if so, whether Government would ensure that such reservation/ quota is restored and given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) As per extant policy of the Government, there is a scheme to provide appointment on compassionate grounds to one of the dependent family members of a Government servant when he/she dies in harness. For this purpose, appointment can be made upto the maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under direct recruitment quota in any Group-C and Group-D posts.

(c) and (d) The policy of compassionate appointment has been laid down and its implementation is done by the administrative Ministries/ Departments and their Attached/Subordinate offices. Data regarding the utilization of the said 5% vacancies for compassionate appointments is not centrally maintained.

Strike by Employees Federations

1119. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central and the State Government Employees represented by the Confederation of Central Government Employees and Workers (CCGEW) and All India State Government Employees Federation (AISGEF) respectively, had given a call for a one day strike on May 21, 2003 to protest against economic policies of the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the grounds for the strike and their specific demands; and

(c) Government's response and steps taken to avert the strike and to resolve the issues?